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refutation of the dogma, that men must be ruled by an hereditary executive power, and a church establishment. Besides, the American institutions are withdrawing the English, and Irish, and Scotch, from their native land. In America there is no king, nor civil list, approaching to two millions; no hereditary legislators; no subterfuge of representation and borough majority; no church establishment, with tithes and territories; no sinecure places; no impress for land or sea service. Are not then the constitution and the disposition of this nation extraordinary, when they continue a powerful state, as without each of these our politicians inform us we must cease to be respected abroad or subsist at home, an efficient people. E.

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*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

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GENTLEMEN,  
**I**N your excellent Magazine for the month of May, which as usual abounded with sound materials, I saw a letter signed "An Observer," on Party-spirit. The writer is evidently a well-meaning man, but I believe on examination you will not find him a deep or a strong *observer*. This I regret, as he seems well-intentioned. He seems greatly at a loss to account for the political ferment at present, but he is certain the public mind is much disturbed: this is true, and the cause very evident. No period in the history of England so much resembles the present, as that of the second Charles, when Titus Oates made his political *entrée* on the English stage. Locke says that frequently the high faction of church and state has been made use of to throw dust in the people's eyes.

But he that has eyes let him see. It is not difficult to see more churchmen *ministering* to the government, than ministering to the gospel of peace.

When the sacred edifices erected to the God of Peace, and of Charity, in Lurgan and Dromore, are decorated with Orange flags; when the demesne gates (not one hundred miles from Armagh) are thrown open to regale an Orange banditti after the destruction of the *ancient cross* in the market-place of that town; when the Excise-Office of your own town is decorated with Orange emblems of discord and party-spirit; when such men as Warren Hastings are called to the privy council to give *meet* and *discreet* council to the king's ministers; when the villain who forged the third part of the edition of the penal code is received at court with *distinguished honour*, and the writer of the first and second parts is sought after to punish him for saying Barry's trial was not fair, although his honest Protestant counsel swore in open court that he *threw up* his brief at the trial of that man. This now is history whoever runs may read. Couple this with the Grand Juries pushed on by courtly men. At Monaghan assizes last August, no Roman Catholic appeared on any jury; though party trials lasted several days, and the Catholics were punished. Down Grand Jury attacks the Catholic Board, for the opinion of an individual therein; which opinion the Board condemned publicly. The too great delicacy of the Grand Jury of Down carried them too far, as no body is answerable for the expressions of any individual, when it is not their own act. Some speakers at that Board felt hurt at the Monaghan business, and honestly said so; on which the County of Down Grand Jury says

the Board attacks the trial by Jury, although such a sentiment never fell from an individual. The *abuse*, not the *use* of trial by Jury, was what met their just indignation.

Before the Solicitor-general Bushe, a party trial came on; a number of Yeomen were indicted for firing at, and attempting to assassinate a number of poor innocent country people coming from Kilkeel, in Mourne: a jury was impanelled, mostly Orangemen of some property and consideration; an attempt at *alibi* was made, it satisfied the jury for five persons, three others made not the shadow of defence, and their guilt was proved home. The jury—yes, a County of Down jury—never hesitated to say Not Guilty to the whole! On receiving their verdict, the judge indignantly cast from him his pen, and said, “Is this your verdict? I’ll record it. *Thank God it is not mine!*” Yes it was recorded, and the recording angel will not blot it out.

“*Oh Liberty! oh Justice!* once dear to Irishmen! how sacred once!—how now trampled on!” The debased wish of the ancient Cappadocians may now become that of the Irish heart on witnessing such conduct of the petit juries, and such fulminations in support from the grand inquest of the County of Down. Away with the forms of trial, calculated as *it has been managed*, to destroy the essence of justice. Rather would I live in Constantinople where one great tyrant ravages the land, where justice is summary, severe yet simple, than be cursed with tantalizing forms.

The speech of Mr. Abbott to the Regent is also another precious morsel of the honesty, candor, and truth of those who surround the Regent. Mr. Plunket’s exposure of it, allow me to recommend to the serious perusal of every honest man. We need not now be

surprised at a second edition of Titus Oates’ plots to appear, after some late exhibitions; the disinterment of one Orangeman caused more noise than the massacre of numerous individuals at Shercock, in the County of Cavan, by the Yeomen of the place, in that which would have ended only in a common affray, if our religious and armed guardians had not been armed. Is it at all surprising, after *such signs of the times*, that the ignorant lower classes of Catholics become Thrashers? I have not heard of a respectable farmer connected with them.

Any newspaper or Magazine that is fair and honest enough to expose facts unpleasing to the intolerant Orange faction, belongs not to a party, but to the country. Nay, to the whole human race. Any human breast not open or alive to such conduct may do for Derry, or any other corporation, but is utterly unfit to receive *the truth* of a Fenelon, or an Erasmus; or to associate with a Roscoe, or a Romilly. Great enormities demand great chastisements: may God avert them from this land! May the spirit of Justice and mercy *reanimate* our legislators and governors! May truth, not declamation, enlighten our people! May our Judges resemble Smith, Bushe, and Fletcher; and our juries know, and honestly practice their duties; and may our people have peace, and know the value of that blessing, is sincerely wished by

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.  
County of Down, 10th June, 1814.

For the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*.

**The Investigator.**

NO. 11.

ON SLEEPING IN CHURCHES.

SATIETY and fatigue are, in general, the causes of sleep. When